GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5127
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2002
CHILD LABOUR IN INDUSTRIES
HARIBHAU MAHALE

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether some countries have imposed ban on the import of the products manufactured by those industries where child labour involved therein;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to deal with the ban so imposed and to promote the export?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) to (c) : Section 307 of the US Tariff Act of 1930 prohibits importation of goods that are manufactured using convict, forced or indentured labour. Under the said provision, the US Customs had issued detention orders against import of beedies, from a specific Indian exporter, namely, M/s Mangalore Ganesh Beedi Works on the basis of `reasonable suspicion` that forced child labour is being used by the Company in manufacturing beedis. The Company and the Government of India have taken up the matter with the appropriate US Government authorities.